

State Board of Education Meeting Audio - Part 1
Opening, Call to Order, Roll Call, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes,
Formal Public Comment, Committee Reports from State Board Members, Update from
Executive Director, SBE Budget, Selection of NASBE Delegate, Statewide Review of
Educational Opportunities, Secretary's Report

Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m. The following members of the State Board were present: Teri Quinn Gray, President; Jorge L. Melendez, Vice President; Nina Lou Bunting; G. Patrick Heffernan; and Dr. Terry M. Whittaker. Secretary of Education Mark Murphy was present to serve as the Executive Secretary for the State Board and the Board's Executive Director, Donna Johnson, was also present.

The agenda was approved as amended. The DIAA regulations were removed, an executive session on personnel was added and it was noted that Regulation 284 was for the Board's information only. A motion was made by Mr. Melendez and seconded by Mrs. Bunting to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Minutes from the work session of August 20, 2015 were distributed prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Melendez to approve the minutes of the work session as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried by voice vote (Abstain – Mr. Heffernan).

Minutes from the regular meeting of August 20, 2015 were distributed prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Mrs. Bunting to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried by voice vote (Abstain – Mr. Heffernan).

Several individuals signed up to address the Board during public comment. Bill Doolittle spoke on behalf of the Delaware PTA on Regulation 103 stating that participation rates are not mandated by the U.S. Department of Education and parents can opt out their students and should not be included on a school's report card. Mr. Doolittle also spoke as a volunteer advocate for children at risk and how Regulation 103 fails to meet the needs of at-risk students.

Frederika Jenner, President of the Delaware State Education Association, stated that DSEA could not support the recommended changes to the Regulation 103 as the proposed changes are incomplete and cited several examples. She commented that the State Board does not have to take action at this time and should wait until the revisions have been completed.

Deborah Stevens from DSEA spoke as a member of the Accountability Framework Work Group as several members of the group asked her to speak on Regulation 103 and request that the regulation be deferred until the framework has been completed.

Mike Matthews, President of the Red Clay Education Association, spoke on Regulation 103 and asked if the proposed changes would mean more priority schools. Mr. Matthews will provide written public comment on the regulation to the Department after he meets with his association members.

Jackie Kook, a teacher in the Christina School District and Vice President of the Christina Education Association spoke on Regulation 103. She noted that her organization has not addressed the regulation formally. She spoke as a parent whose child does not participate in Smarter Balanced as she sees no useful information in the test for teachers. Her child will participate in other assessments that will help teachers determine the needs of her child.

Kevin Ohlandt spoke about the Parent Strike earlier in the day which was a nationally coordinated event. He also stated that he has filed several complaints to the U.S. Department of Education and Department of Justice against the Department, the State Board, Dr. Gray and Ms. Johnson. He also has filed FOIA complaints to the Department of Justice on embargoed information and a complaint against Dr. Gray as she sits on the Board for U.S. Education Delivery Institute.

State Representative John Kowalko commented on Regulation 103 and how it disarms House Bill 50 which passed in the General Assembly. He asked the Board to hold the regulation until the General Assembly is reconvened.

Lorrie Gloede commented as a citizen and noted how many times the word proficiency is included in many documents. She questioned how proficiency is determined and how proficiency cut scores often get altered.

Board members highlighted their monthly activities. Mrs. Bunting will attend an upcoming DSBA Board meeting where reorganizing the organization will be discussed. Mr. Melendez attended the Vision Coalition Student Success 2025 event. Mr. Heffernan attended the Board's retreat. Ms. Johnson provided the Board with a summary of her activities and also noted the items that were posted for the Board and the public to read posted under her report on the agenda. She announced the State Board workshop scheduled for October 5th on standards and assessment and reported on the resources the State Board has made available on its webpage. A short video was shared that assists parents when reviewing their child's grade assessment score card. Ms. Johnson also reported that the State Board received notification that it was awarded the standards based stipend grant that will be used for a policy audit and stakeholder engagement efforts in those core areas.

Mr. Melendez chairs the State Board Budget Committee and stated that the Board's proposed FY '16 budget was drafted by the Committee and asked that the Board approve the budget. The FY '16 budget was approved unanimously. The Board also unanimously approved Greg Coverdale as the Board's voting delegate for the NASBE Annual Conference. The Board also received a brief update on the SREO from Ms. Johnson.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Murphy provided his monthly report. He thanked the Board for their partnership during his tenure as Secretary of Education. Dr. Gray thanked Mr. Murphy for his leadership and presented to him on behalf of the Board the State Board Order of Excellence, a SBE bag and a leather journal.

State Board of Education Meeting Audio - Part 2 Educators as Catalyst Showcase of Innovation

Over the past two years Dr. Erica Thomas, a lead teacher in the Capital School District, has worked with the State Board as an intern during the summer. Dr. Thomas worked on several research and policy projects and provided the State Board an overview. Her work included the educator evaluation system, the Superintendent evaluation system and the Statewide Review of Educational Opportunities.

The Board recessed for ten minutes.

State Board of Education Meeting Audio – Part 3
WEIC Overview of Commission, Committees, Timeline and Process

Dr. Dan Rich from the University of Delaware provided an overview of the Wilmington Education Improvement Commission which will advise the Governor and General Assembly on improvements to the quality and availability of education for children in Wilmington and New Castle County. The 23 member Commission is chaired by Tony Allen, an executive with Bank of America. The Commission is also a community based council and will support the implementation of the recommendations of the WEAC/Wilmington Education Advisory Committee's report. WEIC must submit an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly.

Joining Dr. Rich were Dr. Joe Pika and Dr. Henry Harper, co-chairs of the Redistricting Committee. There are five WEIC Committees. Dr. Pika and Dr. Harper outlined the redistricting timeline. There was a lengthy discussion with members of the State Board that also focused on developing the redistricting plan, what would be included in the record and also on funding. Public comment will begin on November 17th and conclude on January 14, 2016.

Dr. Rich clarified the role of the State Board noting the Board's authority in reference to any submission presented to the State Board. The Board will receive WEIC updates at its meetings.

The Board recessed for ten minutes.

State Board of Education Meeting Audio - Part 4
Assessment Results of English/Language Arts and Mathematics, Department Regulations, Charter School Items, Professional Standards Board, Appeals, Executive Session

Statewide Assessment Results

Penny Schwinn, Associate Secretary of Assessment, Accountability, and Performance Management; Michael Watson, Chief Academy Officer; Shana Young, Chief of Staff; and Carolyn Lazar, Interim Director of Assessments presented the assessment results for Smarter Balanced in English/Language Arts and Mathematics. It was noted that Smarter Balanced is a more rigorous assessment with a focus on deeper learning and testing new skills. The results from last spring will be the baseline to measure student growth moving forward.

The overall statewide proficiency for English/Language Arts was 51.9% and 38.8% in Mathematics. The Board received trend information as well as disaggregated data. Participation rates statewide was 96.8% for English/Language Arts and 95.8% in Mathematics. The Board was also presented with the results of the online student survey that consisted of ten questions designed for students at the elementary, middle school and high school level. Participation in the survey was the highest in Grades 3-5 and the lowest in Grade 11.

Mr. Watson briefed the Board on teaching and learning initiatives in the State and how the Common Ground is providing professional development for teachers. Ms. Young provided information on the score report parents will receive and highlighted the DelExcells.org website that is a useful resource for teachers and parents.

Department Regulations

Tina Shockley presented the Department's regulations on the agenda.

103 Accountability for Schools, Districts, and State – For Discussion

Dr. Susan Haberstroh joined Ms. Shockley for presenting this regulation. It was noted that this regulation was published for compliance with the State's ESEA Waiver. Since sections of the regulation are incomplete, the regulation will not be moving forward at this time for action by the Board next month. The regulation will be presented once it has been completed and republished.

505 High School Graduation Requirements and Diplomas

The Secretary of Education seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin. Code 505 High School Graduation Requirements and Diplomas. This regulation is being amended to include language which specifically allows a district or charter school to award credit based on demonstration of mastery of a particular course. This language was proposed based on the Competency Based Learning Guiding Coalition that was facilitated by the Department of Education and that included educators in Delaware. In addition, an amendment was made in section 10.0 that expands the scope of students covered in this section. This section allows a student under DSCFY custody during their high school years to graduate from high school based on the State's graduation requirements if the district or charter school exceeds what is required by the State. With the amendment those students in DSCYF within Youth Rehabilitations Services are included. It was noted that comments were received. A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to consent to the amendment of Regulation 505 as requested by the Secretary. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried unanimously by voice vote.

545 K to 12 School Counseling Programs

The Secretary of Education seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to amend Title 14 DE Admin. Code 545 K to 12 School Counseling Programs. This regulation is being amended to update the language to align with the new edition of the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) National Model. The original model was written in 2003. In 2012, ASCA released a new version of the model that was updated to reflect current educational practices. Over the past three months, a group of counselors have been meeting to review and understand the new model, as well as develop user-friendly templates that will assist counselors in streamlining this process. This group will also be responsible for providing technical assistance to other counselors around the state. A motion was made by Mrs. Bunting to consent to the amendment of Regulation 545 as requested by the Secretary. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heffernan and carried unanimously by voice vote.

1150 School Transportation

This regulation is being amended to clarify the requirement for school bus drivers and aides to receive four hours of in-service training each year and annual physicals for aides. These requirements are not effective unless the General Assembly appropriates funding for these purposes. The regulation was originally amended to require annually in-service training of bus drivers and aides where previously it was suggested and to require annual physicals for aides. The regulation is being amended to be in compliance with 80 Del. Laws, c. 79 §337(b). A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to consent to the amendment to Regulation 1150 as requested by the Secretary. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously by voice vote.

Charter Schools

Jen Nagourney provided the Board with a charter school update. It was noted that the conditions for schools on probation are being met thus far and Family Foundations has been removed from probationary status. Three schools, Campus Community, MOT Charter and Providence Creek are in the renewal process and a timeline was provided. Minor and major modifications were also noted.

Professional Standards Board

PSB Executive Director Chris Kenton presented the PSB items to the State Board.

Three regulations were on the agenda for discussion. Regulation 1559 – Skilled and Technical Science Teacher, Regulation 1583 – School Psychologist and Regulation 1595 Certification Programs for Leaders in Education. Mr. Kenton provided a brief overview of each regulation.

Mr. Kenton presented regulation 1560 Art Teacher, 1563 Music Teacher and 1564 Physical Education Teacher to the Board for action. These regulations are part of the five year review cycle. A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to consent to the amendment of Regulation 1560. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried unanimously by voice vote. A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to consent to the amendment of Regulation 1563. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously by voice vote. A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to consent to the amendment of Regulation 1564. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously by voice vote.

Regulation 1571, Exceptional Children Special Education Teacher was also presented for action. A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to consent to the amendment of Regulation 1571. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously by voice vote.

New Program for Approval – Leadership Certification Program

Sandy Smith and Juanita Wilson, on behalf of Supporting School Success, LLC presented the Fostering Leadership Excellence (FLEX) program application to the State Board for its review. A motion was made by Mr. Melendez to recommend to the Secretary of Education that this program be approved. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Bunting and carried unanimously by voice vote. Secretary Murphy stated he was granting approval for the FLEX program for 2 cohorts.

Appeals

Deputy Attorney General Ilona Kirshon provided the State Board with an update on K.S. v. Woodbridge and asked the Board to sign an Order of Dismissal. She also noted that the J.W. v. Brandywine appeal would be heard by the hearing officer in the next week.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Mrs. Bunting for the State Board to enter into executive session for the purposes of discussing personnel items. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously by voice vote. The Board entered Executive Session at 6:49 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:28 p.m.

**State Board of Education Meeting Audio – Part 5
Information Items, Adjournment**

Information Items

Dr. Gray noted the information items.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mrs. Bunting to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

David Blowman, Deputy Executive Secretary and
Deputy Secretary of Education for
Mark T. Murphy, Executive Secretary
and Secretary of Education

Executive Session

The Board entered into Executive Session pursuant to 29 *Del. C.* § 10004(9). The motion was made by Mrs. Bunting, seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously. The Board went into Executive Session at 6:49 p.m. The Board discussed personnel items. The Board returned to open session at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

David Blowman, Deputy Executive Secretary and
Deputy Secretary of Education for
Mark T. Murphy, Executive Secretary
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